

7th November 1952]

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE ON FRIDAYS FOR MUSLIM PRAYERS.

JANAB MOHAMED SALIH MARAIKAYAR :—“ Mr. Speaker, 11-20
Sir, Muslims are bound to attend the Prayers on Fridays at a.m.
12 noon; may I suggest that the House . . . ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ We adjourn at 1 o'clock.”

JANAB MOHAMED SALIH MARAIKAYAR :—“ I appeal to
the Hon. Speaker as well as to the House to adjourn at 12 o'clock.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ The practice is for the House to adjourn
at 1 o'clock and reassemble at 3 on Fridays.”

JANAB MOHAMED SALIH MARAIKAYAR :—“ But we
have to attend the Prayers at 12-30. I request we may adjourn at
12, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ Let the hon. Member put that in
writing; I shall consider the suggestion. But I may inform the
hon. Member that the practice is for the House to adjourn at one
o'clock and not at twelve on Fridays.”

JANAB MOHAMED SALIH MARAIKAYAR :—“ It will be
difficult for us to reach the mosque in time, Sir.”

III.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS DISTRICT BOARDS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1952—cont.

* SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, the
Government in moving this Bill have stated that they are actuated
by a democratic purpose, viz., that new electoral rolls should be
prepared and that some time is necessary for their preparation.
We are not prepared to accept that reason at its face value. If
the intention of the Government is to give greater facilities for
those young people who have not been enfranchised yet and to
disenfranchise those who have voted and the dead who, it is alleged,
have voted in the municipal elections . . . ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ I do not hear the hon. Member at all.
There is too much noise in the House.”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ There is a
slight technical point; the hon. Member seems to be too tall for
the mike. He must just bend a little bit.”

* SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I
was stating that I did not accept the explanation offered by the
Hon. Minister to the effect that the Government were motivated
by a democratic purpose, viz., of enfranchising those that have not
been enfranchised as yet and to disenfranchise the dead who have
voted in the municipal elections. If this reason was given they
should have come forward to postpone the municipal elections

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which were conducted on the basis of the old electoral rolls. The second reason adduced for bringing forward this measure is that the monsoons have failed and that famine exists in certain areas and that therefore the energies of the Government and of the people should be mobilized for combating the famine. Sir, there is no assurance given by the Minister that next year also the monsoon will not fail. As a matter of fact, it may or may not fail. So, we are not prepared to accept this reason also at its face value. On the other hand, certain political incidents would seem to indicate that it is on the basis of certain calculations to ensure the success of the party in power, that this Bill has been brought forward. I believe it was a calculated indiscretion on the part of the Hon. the Minister for Finance when he said that re-elections might be held at an early date though the Chief Minister hastened to give an official denial of the intention. The results of the municipal elections would seem to indicate that the Government has not been able to regain popularity after the present Ministry was formed. The results of the elections do not seem to have heartened the Congress Party and the Chief Minister himself has admitted that he had been humbled and that his anticipation that his personality would be able to sway the electorate did not have the intended effect. Hence, they seem to be nursing the hope that if there is one more year of the Ministry's rule in the districts, Congress popularity would increase and it would be possible for the Congress to secure a larger number of seats at the district board elections. An effort has been made to increase Congress popularity by creating false hopes on certain issues. The architect of the present Constitution stood for centralism some time ago, but to-day we find him as an ardent advocate of Provincial Autonomy. In a burst of enthusiasm—perhaps in a fit of delirium when he was running a temperature—the Hon. the Finance Minister extolled the exploits of the Chief Minister at the recent Delhi Conference of Finance Ministers in regard to a greater share to the Madras State of the revenue derived from income-tax and provincial autonomy regarding certain taxation measures. During this session, an attempt is being made to show that the present Ministry is ready to fight the Central Government on the question of handlooms. I believe all this is shadow-boxing for the purpose of making the electorate believe that the present Ministry stands for a greater degree of provincial autonomy. The postponement of the district board elections is for the purpose of making the electorate believe that the Congress is on the side of the people, on this issue. On the other hand, the violent opposition to this Bill by certain Members of this House is motivated by the fact that in the recent municipal elections, the results showed that the popularity of the Communist party is waning; therefore the Communist party members would like to have immediate elections, so that their present popularity may not wane still further. Though these are the political calculations of those who support this Bill and those who oppose it, we on this side of the House, have our own calculations with regard to this measure. We do not believe that the popularity of the Congress is likely to be

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enhanced as a result of the postponement of the elections. The Congress Government nourishes pious hopes and these hopes will be belied in the same way as they were belied during the municipal elections. It will be some time before the electorate begins to understand that the attitude of the Ministry on the question of greater autonomy for the States is merely shadow-boxing with the Central Government. It will be some time before the people realise that the new broom is not sweeping as well as was sought to be made out by persistent propaganda. A number of concessions are being given nowadays with the idea of mobilising support for the party in power; but if you analyse the concessions, they are only crumbs thrown for the purpose of creating the impression that some further good is going to be done to the people subsequently. For instance, let us take the concession that was made to the bus transport workers. The concession was that gratuity would be paid to the workers some ten years hence; and that concession has been made with a view to create the impression that this Government are making every possible effort to improve the conditions of the workers. But so long as the Congress Government sticks to its preset economic programme, so long as it is going to be a Government for the protection of the interests of the landlords and the rich, we are confident that this Government will not be able to gain that popularity which it expects. On the other hand, we believe that this attempt on their part will lead to the same result as in the case of their previous attempts. In the matter of playing with separatist tendencies they are likely to sow the wind and reap the whirlwind. Even during the period of this one year of postponement of the elections, this attempt at playing with the separatist tendencies operating in this State is not going to bring any results in their favour. Like the sorcerer's apprentice, Sri Rajagopalachari will be unable to control the forces he is unleashing. On the other hand, they will be exposed as people who are not genuine supporters of a greater degree of provincial autonomy. Further, I would like to say that the Government which brought forward this measure, have failed to take note of one other calculation, viz., the possibility of a recession; and if the recession should deepen, as it is likely to do, then all these attempts and calculations which are supposed to bolster up the present Ministry's popularity are likely to be doomed. Therefore, our own calculation is, that the Congress popularity will wane further and that the Opposition forces are likely to gain by a postponement of the elections.

“ The main argument that has been advanced by the Government in introducing this Bill is the inevitable delay in the preparation of electoral rolls. If this reason was genuine, I submit there is no necessity for postponing the elections for as long a period as one year. If it is genuine, it would be desirable for the Government to give the assurance that as soon as electoral rolls are prepared, the elections will be held. I believe that there is a great deal of truth in what has been said by many Members of the Opposition that there has been a great deal of harassment by Presidents of District Boards. Assurances of course have been

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given by the Minister concerned that these matters will be looked into but we on this side of the House are afraid that these assurances just like other similar assurances will not be fully implemented. On the other hand if they are not implemented the Congress popularity in the State far from going up will wane faster as a result of the victimizations that are being perpetrated by the Presidents of District Boards who have lost popular support. Taking the picture as a whole we on this side of the House are of the opinion that if the Congress is desirous of committing political suicide through a miscalculated postponement it is welcome to do so."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had not intended to intervene in this debate at all nor am I competent to do it. But I do so, because I have just heard Sri Anthoni Pillai and I wish to assure him that I am very grateful for his observations and in some respects he very clearly proved that our motives, if we are intelligent men, are all honest and at any rate free from self-interest. He has proved that it is very dangerous for the Congress to postpone the elections and he has asserted that the Congress popularity is waning and that it will further wane and that it would, therefore, not be advisable from our own point of view that we should postpone the elections. Admitting all this hypothetically as well as in parts substantially, I submit that he has proved that our motives are good and therefore, let us begin from that point. I am sure that the Hon. the Finance Minister and the Minister for Local Administration who have spoken and who will probably wind up the debate, one of them, will deal with the matter. But I wish to deal with one observation made by Sri Anthoni Pillai. He said that I had admitted that in some cases my personal appeal failed; I admit it again and I am not ashamed of it because it only meant that communal feelings were stronger than the appeal that I made. That point apart, the question is whether the general results of the elections have proved what Mr. Pillai said. With regard to local board elections, whether in municipal or district board elections, I hold the view, with all respect to those who may differ from that view, that as far as possible we should have no politics in them but the present atmosphere did not permit it and there were certain challenges that had been made, so far as the main Opposition to the Congress which came from the Communists, went. Mr. Pillai has asserted—I hope he is right and I hope the Communists will admit it—that the Communists had failed in the elections." (Interruption.)

(Sri K. Govinda Rao rose in his seat.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order. I would request the hon. Member to resume his seat."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Let us examine the position calmly. I was proceeding to the point which perhaps is worrying the other side. Let me tell them that the Congress has not secured an over-all majority of the seats. I say,

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Sir, that it is consistent with my desire because I want that local bodies should be free from extremely undiluted political bias. The Congress has succeeded and certainly the Communists who challenged its position did not succeed. A large number of independent members have succeeded in the elections. I welcome such a thing and I want independents to succeed in elections to the local bodies wherever possible because local bodies are concerned with matters which do not really require political party feelings. We should as far as possible put aside politics in local bodies but since adult franchise has been introduced all at once and at one time in all spheres, in the municipalities, district boards and in the general elections, this situation has arisen and this disturbance of understanding has taken place. Party feelings have played a larger part in the elections than they should. So far as the present elections are concerned, I wish to assure Mr. Pillai that I have no grievance whatsoever with the results, the Congress party has no grievance about it; the Congress is quite pleased with the success that it has secured and is also quite pleased with the fact that many independents have come in and they do hope that the independents will also stand for good administration."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Since many hon. Members have taken part in the discussion, I will allow a few more Members including of course the Leader of the Opposition to take part in the discussion and then I will put the motion to the vote of the House."

SRI RAJA SAGI SURYANARAYANA RAJU:—"అధ్యక్ష, జిల్లా బోర్డులకు సంబంధించిన ఈ తీర్మానాన్ని నేను సలహాస్తున్నాను. జిల్లా బోర్డుల గడువులను ఎంత పొడిగించినా నా కట్టి అధ్యంతరం లేదు. విశఫటిత ఈ విషయమై కొన్ని సలహాలు చేయదలచుకొన్నాను. జిల్లా బోర్డు పరిపాలన చాలా బాగున్నంతో కూడుకొనివుంది. వాటివల్ల ప్రజలకులిగే ఉపకారాలు నానాటికి తగ్గిపోతున్నాయి. జిల్లా బోర్డులలో దుర్వ్యయం చాలా జరుగుతోంది. జిల్లా బోర్డు ప్రెసిడెంట్లు తమ అధికారాన్ని దర్శిస్తూ ఉంటుంటారు. ఇంకొక ఉదాహరణ తెలియజేస్తాను. జిల్లా బోర్డు ప్రెసిడెంట్లకు జిల్లా బోర్డు ఫండ్స్నుంచి ప్రభుత్వంవారు కార్లను కొని యిచ్చారు. వీటి ధరలు 20,000 రూపాయలకు పైబడి వుంటున్నాయి. జిల్లా బోర్డు ప్రెసిడెంట్లకు మంత్రులకువలె ఈ సౌకర్యం ఎందువల్ల కలుగజేయాలి? తెలియదు లేదు. ఈ కార్లనువారు జిల్లా బోర్డు పనులకుకాక పార్టీపనులకు ఉపయోగించు కుంటున్నారు. నెలకు పెట్రోల్ కయ్యే ఖర్చు 500 రూపాయలకు మించి వుంటోంది. పాఠశాలలూ ఏ స్వంతశాలూ తిరగనంతదూరం ఈ కారులు ప్రయాణించేస్తాయి. విదాది తిరుగకుండానే వాటిమరల చెడిపోయి మూలపడుతున్నాయి. జిల్లా బోర్డు ప్రెసిడెంట్లకు కార్లు ఎందుకయ్యా అంటే వారు ప్రజాప్రతినిధులు కనుక కార్లు యిస్తున్నామనే సమాధానం చెప్తున్నారు. అలా అయినట్లయితే శాసనసభ్యులందరూ కూడా కార్లు సప్లయచేస్తే ఎంతో సంతోషిస్తాం. అధమం కాంగ్రెస్ సభ్యులకొక్కరి కైనా కార్లు సప్లయచేయండి లేకపోతే కాంగ్రెస్ సభ్యులందరూ కలిపినా ఒక కారు సప్లయచేయండి. దీనికి మీమంతానో సంతోషిస్తాం. జిల్లా బోర్డు ప్రెసిడెంట్లు తమ స్నేహితులను, బంధువులను జిల్లా బోర్డు కారులలో ఎక్కించుకొని తిరగడం ఆపు చేయాలి. కాంగ్రెస్ పార్టీ ప్రచారానికిగాను దానిని ఉపయోగించుకోరాదని ఉత్తరువులు జారీచేయాలి. జిల్లా బోర్డు ప్రెసిడెంట్లు ఇటువంటి అతకతవకలు చేస్తున్నందు

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వల్లనే ప్రజలకు కాంగ్రెస్ పట్ల అగ్రహం కలుగలేదు. కాంగ్రెస్ సంస్థ ఊహం దృష్ట్యా ఆయినా జిల్లా బోర్డు ప్రెసిడెంట్లు వారి అధికారకాలంలో సక్రమంగా ప్రవర్తించేటట్లు చూడాలి.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ Is the hon. Member speaking on this Bill.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—“ He is speaking on administration.”

SRI RAJA SAGI SURYANARAYANA RAJU :—“ ఎలిమెంటరీ

ఎడ్యుకేషన్ విషయంలో కూడా ఎంతో శ్రద్ధ చూపవలసివుంది. డిప్రీవు బోర్డు ప్రెసిడెంట్లు ఈ ఉపాధ్యాయులపట్ల చాలా కఠినంగా ప్రవర్తించినా, రు. ఉపాధ్యాయులను తరచు ట్రాన్స్ ఫర్ చేయటాడనని జి.ఓ. లు వున్నాయి కాని జిల్లా బోర్డు ప్రెసిడెంట్లు ఈ వ్యవహారాలను చేటిని చూపించుటలేదు. వారి యిష్టప్రకారం ఉపాధ్యాయులను బదిలీలుచేస్తున్నారు.

“ ఎలిమెంటరీ ఎడ్యుకేషన్ విషయంలోవలన హైస్కూల్స్ విషయంలోకూడా జిల్లా బోర్డులు సరిగా వుండేయటలేదు. మా జిల్లాలో టాక్ షర్ట్ క్లాస్స్ నిమిత్తం ఒక వంపు డిప్రీవు బోర్డు నిర్వహిస్తోంది. కాని అది చాలా లోప భూయిష్టంగా ఉంది. దానిని ప్రభుత్వంవారి స్వాధీనంచేసుకొని నిర్వహించవలసిందని కోరుతున్నాను. జిల్లా బోర్డుల గడువును రెండుమాసం సంవత్సరాలకు పెంచినా నేను అట్లుచెప్పేవానిని కాను. ఐతే జిల్లాలో సరియైన పరిపాలన కొనసాగునట్లు చూడవలసినదని రాజగోపాలాచారి గారిని కోరుతున్నాను. మాబోటివారు స్వతంత్రులుగా ఎన్నికలలో గెలిచి, కాంగ్రెస్ ప్రతిఘటించి ఓడించినప్పటికీ ఈనాడు రాజగోపాలాచారిగారిని బలపరుస్తున్నామంటే అందుకు కారణం వారి శక్తిసామర్థ్యాలపై చూకున్న విశ్వాసమే. రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు అధికారానికి వచ్చినతరువాత అధికారులు కొంతవరకు సక్రమంగానే వర్తిస్తున్నారని భావించవలసివుంది. ఆయన జిల్లా బోర్డు పరిపాలన విషయంలో కూడా సక్రమమైన విచారణలుచేస్తారని ఆశిస్తున్నాను.

“ ఈ మధ్యన ఎలిమెంటరీ రిమూనియ్ బోర్డుగురించి లోపాలున్నవిని ప్రభుత్వం ఈ లోపాలు సవరించుటకు సాయపడుతుందని నచ్చుచూ ఇంతటితో విరమిస్తున్నాను.”

11-40
a.m.

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—“ అధ్యక్షా, నేను యీ బిల్లునుగురించి మాట్లాడ వరకని యింతకుముందు తలచలేదు. కాని మన ముఖ్యమంత్రిగారి ప్రసంగంలా వెల్లడింపబడిన అభిప్రాయాలు తెలుసుకొనిన తర్వాత వాటిని ఖండింపుట నా విధి యని భావించి మాట్లాడవలచినాను. వాస్తవ పరిస్థితులకు భిక్షంగా ఊహించుకొని ఆకాశసౌధాలను నిర్మించుకొని వాటిలో తమకు తోచిన కలలుకంటూవుంటే శ్రీ రాజగోపాలాచారిగారిని నేను విమర్శించిఉండే వాడికాదు. కాని ఆయన యీ కాసేన సభను ఒక వేదికగాచేసుకొని కమ్యూనిష్టులపై రాళ్ళురువ్వటానికి ప్రయత్నించినందు వల్లనే నేను వారి విమర్శలకు సమాధానము చెప్పవలసినవచ్చింది. శ్రీ రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు మాట్లాడుతు కమ్యూనిష్టులకు మునిసిపల్ ఎన్నికలలో ఓటమిసంభవించిందని శలవిచ్చారు. ఇది వాస్తవంకాదు. జనరల్ ఎన్నికలలో ఆయాచోట్లలో కమ్యూనిష్టు పార్టీ ఎన్ని ఓట్లు తెచ్చుకోగలిగినదో, యీనాటి మునిసిపల్ ఎన్నికలలోకూడా అన్ని ఓట్లు తెచ్చుకోగలిగింది. అంధ జిల్లాలలో కాంగ్రెసువారు అభ్యర్థులను నిలబెట్టలేక పోయినారనే విషయం శ్రీ రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు గమనించినట్లు కనబడడం

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లేదు. కాంగ్రెసువారును చెప్పుకుంటేనే యేమి ముప్పువస్తుందో అని స్వతంత్రులము అనే మునుకువేసుకొని కొద్దిదారిని Municipalities లో ప్రవేశించుటకు కొంతమంది ప్రయత్నంచేశారు. ఈ యదార్థ విషయాన్ని శ్రీ రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు గమనించాలి. అంతేకాని కాంగ్రెస్ వారికి యేదో విజయం సంభవించింది. కమ్యూనిస్టులు ఒడిపోయినారు అని భావించకోవడంవల్ల ఎట్టి లాభమున్నూ కలుగదు. ఇది వాస్తవ హాస్యమే. ఇక Municipal wards విభజించిన విధానంచూడండి. అది కారంలాభాన్ని పార్టీవారికి వివిధంగా wards ను ఏర్పాటుచేస్తే లాభదాయకంగా ఉంటుందో ఆ విధానమే అనుసరించబడింది. ఒక ward లో చూడువేలమంది ఓటర్లు మరొక ward లో 1,500 మంది ప్రతిపక్షాన్ని విభజన జరిగింది. తక్కువ ఓటర్లు ఉన్న వార్డులకు యిద్దరు అభ్యర్థులను నిలవడంజరిగింది. ఎవరెవరికి ఏ wards లాభదాయకంగా ఉంటాయో అనే విషయంపై ఆయా వ్యక్తుల వలతుకుబడిని ఆధారంచేసుకొని wards ఏర్పాటుచేయబడ్డాయి. మునిసిపాలిటీలలోని వార్డులలో కొంతమందిమంది ఓటర్ల సంఖ్య సమానంగా ఉండాలి అనే సూత్రం పాటించబడలేదు. వ్యక్తుల వలతుకుబడిని వారికి రాగల ఓట్లను ఆధారంగా తీసుకొని వార్డులలో ఉండవలసిన ఓటర్ల సంఖ్య నిర్ణయించబడింది. ఈ విధంగా అక్కడక్కడ కొంతమంది కాంగ్రెస్ వారు స్వతంత్రులని వేరుపెట్టుకొని నేగ్గిలే నేగ్గియుండవచ్చు. నిజంగా స్థానికసంస్థలలో కాంగ్రెస్ ఎక్కడ గెలిచిందో చెప్పండి. కాంగ్రెస్ వలతుకుబడికి అది ఒక నిదర్శన మని నానించడము, కమ్యూనిస్టుల ఆపజయ్యానికి దానిని ఒక కొలతబద్ధంగా చూపడం భావ్యమే అని శ్రీ రాజగోపాలాచారిగారిని అడుగుతున్నాను. వాస్తవ విషయాలను ముగిగురవదానికి, వలతుకుబడి కోల్పోయిన కాంగ్రెస్ సంస్థ కోలుకుంటూ ఉండని చూపడానికి మాత్రమే ప్రచారంగా శ్రీ రాజగోపాలాచారిగారి ప్రసంగం ఉపయోగపడుదేమోకాని, ప్రజలను ఎంతమాత్రం మభ్యపెట్టలేరని అయిన గమనించాలి.”

SRI T. N. VENKATASUBBBA REDDI:—“On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Member is speaking on a subject that is not before the House.”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—“ఈ సందర్భములో ప్రధాన మంత్రిగారు మాట్లాడుతున్నప్పుడు వారికి ధైర్యము చాలక ఈ point of order ను ఆపుడు తీసుకొని రానందులకు నేను చింతించుచున్నాను.”

SRI T. N. VENKATASUBBBA REDDI :—“On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. The hon. Member said that the Hon. Chief Minister was speaking on the same subject. I must tell him that the Hon. Chief Minister raised that point in connection with the point raised by Mr. Anthony Pillai.”

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—“అందుచేతనే, నేనుగూడా ప్రధాన మంత్రిగారు ఆపుడు పెప్పిన దానినిబట్టియే యిప్పుడు నేను చెప్పుతున్నాను అని గ్రహించి పూర్తి ఉంటే హేయమి. మునిసిపల్ ఎన్నికలలో కమ్యూనిస్టుల గెలుపు ఓటమి జిల్లా బోర్డు ఎన్నికలకు సంబంధములేదు. జనరల్ ఎన్నికల తరువాతమాడ వెనుకటి జిల్లా బోర్డు అధ్యక్షులు ఉండటమువల్ల ప్రజలకు అనేక చిక్కులు కలుగుతున్నాయి. వీరియొక్క అధికార దుర్వినియోగం తగ్గించాలనే పుద్బోధ్యంతో ఇంతకుముందు ఈ జిల్లా బోర్డు ఎన్నికలు జరిగి ఎన్నో సంవత్సరములైనవి. నేను యీ విల్లును వ్యతిరేకిస్తున్నాను. జనరల్ ఎన్నికలు జరిగిన వెంటనే యీ జిల్లా బోర్డు ఎన్నికలు జరిపితే ప్రజల యిబ్బందులు తీర్చటానికిన్నీ, మరల అధికారం పనించటానికిన్నీ అవకాశం ఉంటుంది

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అని చెప్పుతున్నాను. యిప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వమువారు యీ బిల్లును లిసుగొని గావడమువల్ల వారికి ఎల్లక్షనులలో గెలుపొందుటకు వారికి అనుకూల వాతావరణంకొరకు ఎదురుదూస్తూ ఎన్నికలను వాయిదా వేస్తున్నారని అనుకుంటున్నాను. జనరల్ ఎన్నికలు జరిగిన తర్వాత యీ బోర్డు అధ్యక్షుల తరపున ఓటర్లనుండి తమ పార్టీలకు కోడ్లపని కారణం చేత వారికి యిష్టంలేని వారినందరిని దూరప్రదేశాలకు transfer చేయడం జరుగుచున్నది. యీ విషయంలో యీ బోర్డు అధ్యక్షులు అనేవారు వీరి అధికారములను దుర్వినియోగంచేసి ప్రజలను బాధించుచున్నారు. వారు యింక దొర్లవ్యముచేస్తూన్నారంటే అది వారియొక్క అసమర్థతలే సూచించుచున్నది. యిప్పుడు నిజముగా కాంగ్రెసు పక్షము వారికి ఎన్నికల భయము లేకపోతే, యిప్పుడు వెంటనే ఎన్నికలు వీల జరగరు అని అడుగుచున్నాను. ఎన్నికలు జరిపితే ఎవరెవరి పేరు ప్రతిష్టలు బయటపడగలవు. ఆ కారణంచేతనే ఎన్నికలను వాయిదా వేయుటకు ప్రయత్నము తున్నారు. ప్రతిదానికి కరువును అడ్డుముట్టుకోవటం అధిక మంత్రి శ్రీ సుబ్రహ్మణ్యం గారికి అలవాటు అయినది. అన్ని ఎన్నికలకు అడ్డు భర్తును కరువు నివారణకు వినియోగిస్తున్నారా? ప్రతిదానికి కరువు అనే పేరు చెప్పుట మంచిదికాదని నా అభిప్రాయము. కాబట్టి ప్రజాభిప్రాయాన్ని మన్నించి ప్రభుత్వం వెంటనే జిల్లా బోర్డు ఎన్నికలు జరుపగలదని ఆశిస్తున్నాను. ఈ బిల్లును వ్యతిరేకించవలసిన వాళ్ళతో ఆయి వైపు సభ్యులైనగూడా ఉన్నది. ఎన్నికలు జరిపి ప్రభుత్వం కాంగ్రెసు పేరు ప్రతిష్టలను ఎంతవరకు నిలుపుకొందురో చూడమని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుతున్నాను.

SRI V. K. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—“ கணம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது சபையின் முன்னால் இருக்கும் தீர்மானமானது மிகவும் சாமான்யமான தீர்மானம். இந்த மசோதா இவ்வளவு தூரம் ஆட்சேபணைக்குரியது என்று நான் நினைக்கவில்லை. பிப்ரவரி மாதத் திஸ்தான சட்டசபைத் தேர்தல் நடந்தது. அதற்கு பின் முனிசிபல் தேர்தல் இப்பொழுது தான் நடந்து முடிந்திருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது பஞ்சாயத்து தேர்தல் நடக்கிறது. அதற்குள்ளேயே ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தல் வேண்டுமென்று எதிர்க் கட்சிக்காரர்கள் நினைக்கிறார்களென்று நான் நினைக்கவில்லை. ஏதோ இந்த 'பில்'லுக்கு ஆட்சேபணை சொல்லவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள் தவிர, மனதார ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தலை இதற்குள்ளாக வைக்க அவர்கள் தயாராய் இருக்கிறார்களென்று நான் நம்பவில்லை.

11-50 “ இந்த ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனத் தேர்தல்கள் இந்த மூன்று வருஷங்
a.m. களிலே ஒரு ஸ்தாபனத்திற்காவது இந்தத் தேர்தல் நடக்கவில்லை.
இப்பொழுது நடந்ததே முனிசிபல் தேர்தல், அந்த முனிசிபல் சபைகள்
இந்து வருஷங்கள் இருந்த பிறகுதான் தேர்தல் நடந்திருக்கிறது.
இப்பொழுது வரப்போகிற பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டுகளுக்கு 14 வருஷங்களுக்கு
முன்பே தேர்தல் நடந்தது. 14 வருஷங்களுக்குப் பிறகு இப்பொழுது
தான் தேர்தல் நடக்கப்போகிறது. அது மாதிரமல்ல. இந்த 14 வருஷங்
களிலேயே ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தலோ, முனிசிபல் தேர்தலோ மூன்று
வருஷங்களுக்கொரு தடவை நடக்கவில்லை. இதற்கு முன் முனிசிபல்
தேர்தல் 7 வருஷத்திற்கு ஒரு தடவை நடந்தது. ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தல்
7 வருஷத்திற்கு ஒரு தடவை நடந்தது. இந்த முனிசிபால்டிகள் பஞ்சா
யத்து போர்டுகள், ஜில்லா போர்டுகள் ஆகிய ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களெல்ல
லாம் குறைந்தது ஐந்து வருஷங்களுக்காவது அதனுடைய period
இருக்கவேண்டியது அவசியம். அப்பொழுதுதான் அந்த ஸ்தல ஸ்தா
பனங்களும், அதில் இருக்கின்றவர்களும் ஏதாவது வேலை செய்ய முடியு
மென்று நான் பூரணமாய் நம்புகின்றேன். ஆகையால் இது ஒன்றும்
புதிது அல்ல. இந்தத் தேர்தலை ஒத்தி வைத்தால் இதற்கென்று பல
motives, கற்பிக்கிறார்கள். ‘இதை வேண்டுமென்றே சர்க்கார் ஒத்திப்
போடுகிறார்கள்; ‘தேர்தல் வரக்கூடாது என்று சர்க்கார் நினைக்கிறது’
என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இந்த முனிசிபல் தேர்தலை வைத்த சர்க்

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கார், பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு தேர்தல் வைக்கிற சர்க்கார், இந்த ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தலுக்காகப் பயப்படவேண்டியதில்லை. சர்க்கார் பயப்படப் போவதில்லை. ஆனால், இந்த வருஷத்திலே இத்தனை தேர்தலும் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று சர்க்கார் நினைக்கவில்லை.

“தவிர ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபன மந்திரி சொன்னார்: அதற்கு வேண்டிய வோட்டர்கள் லிஸ்டு தயாராகவில்லை” என்று. இனிமேல் ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தல்களுக்கெல்லாம் அதிகப் பணச்செலவோடு நடக்கப்போகிறது. இந்த அலெம்பிளி தேர்தலுக்கு எவ்வளவு செலவாயிற்றோ அதைவிட அதிகச் செலவும் சிரமமும் ஏற்படும். ஒரு ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தலுக்குக் குறைந்தது ஒரு லட்சம் ரூபாயாவது செலவாகுமென்று நான் நினைக்கின்றேன். இந்தச் செலவையெல்லாம் ஜில்லா போர்டு தான் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். அதனால் இந்தச் சட்டத்தை மாற்றி ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தலை வருஷத்திற்கொருதரம் என்று வைப்பதுதான் முறை. அது தான் நியாயம்.

“இந்த சட்டசபைக்குக் கூட மூன்று வருஷத்திற்கொருதரம் தேர்தல் நடந்தது. ஆனால் ஐந்து வருஷம் என்று ‘கான்ஸ்டிடியூஷனல்’ மாற்றியிருக்கிறார்கள். அதைப்போலவே ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களாகிய ஜில்லா போர்டு, முனிசிபாலிட்டி, பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு இவைகளுக்கெல்லாம் தேர்தல்கள் ஐந்து வருஷத்திற்கு ஒரு தடவை இருப்பதுதான் முறை. அப்பொழுதுதான் அந்த போர்டிலே சென்றவர்கள் தகுதியான, உருப் படியான வேலையைச் செய்து காண்பிக்கலாம். இந்த ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தலை ஒத்திவைப்பது வேண்டுமென்றே காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் செய்த காரியமல்ல. எதிர்க்கட்சிகாரர்கள் சொல்லுகிறார்களே தவிர, அவர்கள் கூட இந்தத் தேர்தலுக்கு தயாராய் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று நான் சொல்லமுடியாது.

“ஜில்லா போர்டுகளிலே அனேக கெடுதலான காரியங்கள், ஜில்லா போர்டு தலைவர்களாலும் அதன் கீழுள்ள அதிகாரிகளாலும் செய்யப்படுகின்றன என்று பல அங்கத்தினர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். ஜில்லா போர்டுண்டையுமுறை தெரியாமல் அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள் என்றதான் நான் நினைக்கிறேன். தற்போது இருக்கிற ஜில்லா போர்டு முறையிலே நல்லதும் செய்ய முடியாது கெட்டதும் செய்ய முடியாது. அவர்களாகவே செய்யக் கூடிய காரியம் பல இல்லை. ஜில்லா போர்டு சட்டம் 1920-ம் வருஷத்திலே ஆரம்பித்த போது பல அதிகாரங்கள் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருந்தன. ஆனால், இன்றைக்கு அந்த அதிகாரங்களெல்லாம் எடுக்கப்பட்டுவிட்டன. ஆகையால் அதிக கெடுதலும் செய்ய முடியாது; நல்லதும் செய்ய முடியாது. இதனாலே ஜில்லா போர்டுகளில் அனேக கெடுதல்கள் செய்துவிட்டார்கள் என்று சொல்லுவது தப்பு.

“தவிர ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களில் ராஜ்ய கட்சிகள் அவசியம் இல்லை. கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னது போல், அது அவசியமே இல்லை. ஒரு கட்சியார் தேர்தலுக்கு கட்சி ரீதியில் நிற்கிறார்களேயென்று மற்ற கட்சியார்களும் நிற்கிறார்கள். ஆகையினால் இந்த ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தலை ஒரு வருஷத்திற்கு ஒத்தி வைத்ததில் ஏதோ ஒரு ‘மோடிஸ்’ இருக்கிறதென்று சொல்வது தப்பு. அது ஒத்தி வைக்கப் படுவது நல்லது. ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனத் தேர்தல்களெல்லாம் ஐந்து வருஷங்களுக்கு ஒரு தடவை நடப்பது தான் நல்லது என்று தெரிவித்துக் கொண்டு என்னுடைய வார்த்தையை முடித்துக்கொள்கின்றேன்.”

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I entirely agree with those who have spoken, that the elections must be held by the due date. I am not one of those who believe that there are valid administrative reasons for postponing the elections. We have got a very costly department of the Inspector of Local Boards and a big staff throughout the State who ought to have known better that even if there were changes with regard to the

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constitution of the Ministry and all these political matters, elections to local bodies would not be affected. His whole department should have been ready for it. They knew since April, after the formation of the Ministry, that the elections are bound to come at a particular time. Therefore, in my humble opinion the reasons advanced mildly by the Hon. Sri Sankara Reddi are really not valid. One of the reasons, he said, is that the revision of electoral rolls is going on. I submit revision of electoral rolls always takes place and it can never be a valid reason to postpone elections particularly in this case because the main electoral rolls are all ready and a little difference, if any, regarding a few names should really not stop the entire election machinery and interrupt the democratic programme of the life of the people. Day before yesterday the Hon. Finance Minister was good enough to intervene in the debate and he appealed to the House to understand the present position, namely, that immediately after the general elections, we should not thrust upon the people another series of elections. He pleaded this point with all the earnestness which world politicians to-day are pleading for preventing a Third World War. Sir, elections to district boards, not being of such a superior political nature—as the Hon. Chief Minister said—need not really worry us and their programme need not be disturbed at all.

“ Sir, it was also stated that there would be elections to panchayats and therefore it would not be possible to arrange elections to district boards also. I submit that every district has got so many officers and so many establishments and if only the Government want that the programme should be observed, there are enough officers and enough people to carry out the programme without any let or hindrance. Therefore, we should not view these things from any political point of view. We must see that elections are held in the regular course, just as the annual share-holders' meetings of companies and incorporated organizations and co-operative societies are held in a regular way. The election programme should not be disturbed and must always continue whatever party may be in power here. That is one reason why I urge upon the Government to drop the present Bill. I moved an amendment that the Bill might be taken into consideration six months from to-day. The meaning of that is that the elections should go on immediately and that the present Bill should be dropped. I am not going into other aspects, whether the Communists have succeeded or the Congress have failed to succeed and whether we should be glad over the success of the Independents or not. It may be, in a different political atmosphere some people will be coming into the district boards and in another seasonal atmospheric change, others might come in. But the work of Local Boards must be carried on uninterruptedly in a democratic way. If we postpone elections, things will stagnate on all sides. No president of a district board should ever be under an impression—however good he may be—that the term of the district board would be extended under pressure.

12 noon. “ Elections must be held immediately on the due date unless an act of God intervenes and everybody including the electors must

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be prepared and must have that certainty. Then only there will be a healthy development of ideas in public life. I know most of the presidents of the district boards who have been defeated in the last general elections. It is merely a question of some defects in the electoral rolls. I have consulted some of the presidents of district boards and they said that there could be no difficulty in regard to the electoral rolls and they were also of the opinion that elections to the panchayat boards need not really stand in the way of elections to the districts boards. I therefore appeal to the Government to drop the Bill or accept my amendment. But, the Hon. Minister may say that it is already November and ask, 'How is it possible for us to hold elections by 1st December?' My first charge against him is that having been in office for six months and more, he should have foreseen the elections instead of waiting for six months and then coming forward and saying that there is no time. I will make a sporting offer to the Hon. Minister. Will he change the date from 1st December 1953 to 31st December 1952? If he agrees to complete the elections before the 31st December 1952, we would all agree not to press our amendments. Sir, I will wait for the answer of the Hon. Minister. We have no objection to postpone the elections by one month more. To-day is only the 7th of November. We have still got 23 days and another 30 days in December making a total of 53 days which is more than enough. Presidents of the United States have been changed within less than one month and the entire election campaign of the United States of America was held in a short while because in America there is a fixed date for the elections and they stick to it. The Americans also knew that if it was left to the passing whims and fancies, or passing opinions of changing Governments, similar adjournments or postponements might take place creating uncertainties and they therefore made it a part of the Constitution so that nobody might come forward and change the date. Therefore the people as well as the State machinery were ready for the elections. We want the Hon. Minister to understand that although he has the power to change the law and to change the date, he should not ordinarily resort to these devices. I submit, Sir, that my suggestion might be acted upon which would be good for both sides. We want these elections to be finished before 31st December 1952. If the Hon. Minister is not agreeable to this, we will be very painfully compelled to oppose this measure tooth and nail."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I congratulate the Leader of the Opposition for choosing to place the presidents of our district boards on a par with the President of the United States of America."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" I am very glad that I have raised the position of our presidents of district boards to that level."

* THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that a good number of hon. Members have evinced keen interest in the administration of local bodies and have expressed their opinions freely. From the trend of the discussion, I feel that there is a section of opinion which feels that elections to the district

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boards must be conducted as early as possible. It is not at all the intention of Government that these elections should be postponed. I would like the House to remember what the Local Administration Department has been doing all along. After we assumed office we had to conduct elections to the Corporation and to so many municipalities whose terms were extended more than once already. Now we are busy with the conduct of elections to the panchayat boards which have stagnated for more than 14 years. These panchayats are scattered all over the whole State and it is essential that elections to these Boards must also be conducted. The hon. the Leader of the Opposition has stated that Government has got a good army of officers to conduct the elections, but it has been seen from practical experience that the strength of the present staff is not enough even to conduct the elections to these panchayats. Some more Deputy Panchayat Officers and others have to be appointed to finish these elections to the panchayats as early as possible. It is therefore very difficult for the Government to commence the elections to the district boards unless and until we complete the elections to the panchayats, both major and minor, i.e., first and second-class panchayats, which number about 9,000 in our State.

"It is also said that some of the district board presidents who contested in the general elections were defeated and they have therefore lost the confidence of the people. In many areas, a constituency is only half a taluk whereas the president and members of a district board have been elected by the whole district. If the president of a district board has lost in a constituency or taluk in the general elections, it does not mean that the people of the district have lost their confidence in him. It is also said that because it is now more than three years since the last elections to the district boards the people have lost their confidence in these boards, and that these boards have become undemocratic institutions. I do not see any reason why these members who were elected by the people according to the then Constitution and electoral rolls should be deemed to have lost the confidence of the people simply because the term of the board has been fixed as three years. The term of a Member of the Legislative Assembly is five years. Because the terms are fixed, it does not mean that soon after that term the people have lost their confidence in them. This Bill only seeks for some more time for the Government to conveniently conduct the elections to these local bodies and asks for an extension of the life of these bodies. The lives of municipalities were extended twice and those of panchayats were perhaps extended more than twenty times. Considering all these factors, I think this extension is necessary and the Government will not take one day longer than is necessary to start the district board elections.

"In the discussion some mention or criticism was made about the general administration of the district boards. I cannot claim that everything is perfect in our district boards. In this imperfect world we must struggle to perfect things."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—"Sir, judging from the tenor of the Hon. Minister's speech, I think he is trying to answer the points

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which we have raised. After consultation with some of my colleagues and also with the Hon. the Chief Minister, I am suggesting that the election programme may be completed by the 30th June 1953. If the Hon. the Chief Minister and the Hon. Minister for Local Administration agree they can move an amendment that the election programme be finished by 30th June 1953."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If there is already any amendment proposed to that effect, it can be accepted."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sri M. Kalyanasundaram has given an amendment to the effect that the date '1st May 1953' be substituted for the date '1st December 1953'."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"Sir, I will move an amendment that the date '1st July 1953' be substituted for the date '1st December 1953'."

SRI G. LATCHANNA:—"Sir, on a point of order, can an amendment be moved at this stage?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"If it is mutually agreed upon, the amendment can be moved. The Hon. Minister for Local Administration will now continue his speech."

* THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—"Mention was also made about maintenance of cars by presidents of district boards. The question of allowing presidents of district boards to draw travelling allowance ordinarily admissible or provide them with cars is engaging the attention of the Government and after consideration of the matter by the Government is over, what is needful will be done. I request that the Bill be taken into consideration at once." 12-10 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I want to know whether the hon. Members Sri T. Viswanatham and Sri Vavilala Gopalakrishnaiah are pressing their amendments."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"No, Sir."

SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH:—"No, Sir."

The amendments were, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am going to put the main motion of the Government to vote. The question is—

'That the Madras District Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1952, be taken into consideration at once.'"

The motion was carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Clause 2.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I want to know whether the hon. Members Sri M. Kalyanasundaram and Sri D. Seetharamiah are moving their amendments to this clause."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM:—"No, Sir."

SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH:—"No, Sir."

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MR. SPEAKER :—“ The Hon. the Leader of the House will move his amendment.”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ I move—

‘ That for the words and figures “ the 1st day of December 1953 ” in Clause 2 of the Bill the words and figures “ the 1st day of July 1953 ” be substituted.’ ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ The question is—

‘ For the words and figures “ the 1st day of December 1953 ” in Clause 2 of the Bill the words and figures “ the 1st day of July 1953 ” be substituted.’ ”

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 2 as amended was put and carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

PREAMBLE.

MR. SPEAKER :—“ I wish to know whether the hon. Member Mr. D. Seetharamiah is withdrawing his amendment.”

SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH :—“ Yes, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ The Hon. the Leader of the House may move his amendment.”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ I move the amendment that for the words ‘ twelve months ’ occurring in paragraph 3 of the Preamble, the words ‘ seven months ’ be substituted.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ The question is—

‘ For the words “ twelve months ” occurring in paragraph 3 of the Preamble, the words “ seven months ” be substituted.’ ”

The amendment was carried.

The Preamble as amended was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER :—“ The Hon. Minister may now move that the Bill as amended be passed into law.”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ I move—

‘ That the Bill as amended be passed into law.’ ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ Motion moved—

‘ That the Madras District Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1952, as amended, be passed into law.’ ”

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—“ I am glad, Sir, that the Government have at this stage considered it fit to respond to public opinion and meet it half way.”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ We know about public opinion ; we have responded to the request of the Leader of the Opposition.”

7th November 1952]

* **SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH** :—“అధ్యక్షా, ఇదివరకు ఇందులో చేసిన మార్పు విమిట నాకు బోధపడలేదు. విమి తెలియకుండా వోటు మాత్రము చేశాము. అందువల్ల ఇప్పుడు ఇందులో మార్పు విమి చేశారో తెలియజేస్తే **preamble** లో వోటు చేయడానికి సహాయకరంగా ఉంటుంది. కనుక దయచేసి ఈ మార్పు విమిటో వివరించమని కోరుతున్నాను.”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“నా మాటను అందరు వినినదానికి నా *gratitude* ఇస్తాను.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“I now put the question to the vote of the House.”

The question that the Bill as amended be passed into law was put and carried.

(2) THE MADRAS CHRISTIAN MARRIAGES VALIDATION BILL, 1952.

* **THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR** :—“Mr. Speaker, Sir. I beg to introduce the Madras Christian Marriages Validation Bill, 1952, and move—

‘That the Bill be taken into consideration at once.’

“In moving this Bill, I have to submit that it is necessitated by a few mistakes and the object of the Bill is to rectify the after effects of those mistakes. Clause 2 sub-clause (1) refers to certificates granted by Sri Eragudla Devadoss of the American Baptist Telugu Mission, Nellore in having solemnized about 12 marriages as per Christian rights. It was brought to the notice of the Government that the gentleman concerned had died and hence the licence granted was cancelled by the Government. Subsequently it was brought to the notice of the Government that the information regarding the death was a mistake and hence the Government is bringing forward this Bill to validate 12 marriages solemnized by this gentleman. Clause 2, sub-clause (2) deals with the marriage performed by Rev. James Ponnurangam. The licence granted to Rev. James Ponnurangam was revoked on the 12th November 1946, and without knowing that his licence was revoked he solemnized one marriage. Certificates of cancellation of licences were granted in the case of both these persons and ignorant of the cancellation they have issued marriage certificates. Clause 2, sub-clause (3) tries to effect the validity of the certificates given by the two persons mentioned above and to serve as evidence in Civil Courts.”

“Gentlemen, no rights are sought to be divested in respect of anybody else. It is only conferring rights on individuals who by mistake have lost them. I hope it will be passed without much difficulty.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“This is a non-controversial Bill and I shall put the whole Bill to the vote of the House.”

12-20
p.m.